Xinya Du

Contact Assistant Professor

Department of Computer Science The University of Texas at Dallas

800 West Campbell Road, Richardson, TX 75080

Research

Natural Language Processing, Machine Learning, Large Language Models, AI for Science

Email: xinya.du@utdallas.edu

Google Scholar

Website: https://xinyadu.github.io

Interests

EDUCATION Cornell University Aug 2016 – Aug 2021

Ph.D. in Computer Science (M.S. degree granted in Aug 2019)

Advisor: Claire Cardie

Shanghai Jiao Tong University Sep 2012 – Aug 2016

B.E. in Computer Science and Engineering

Outstanding Graduates Award

PROFESSIONAL University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, TX

Aug 2022 – Present

Experience Assistant Professor in Computer Science

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Champaign, IL Sep 2021 – Aug 2022

Postdoctoral Research Associate, with Prof. Heng Ji

INDUSTRIAL Google AI, Mountain View, CA May 2020 – Aug 2020

EXPERIENCE Research Intern

Allen Institute for Artificial Intelligence, Seattle, WA Sep 2018 – Dec 2018

Research Intern

Microsoft Research, Redmond, WA May 2018 – Aug 2018

Research Intern

SELECTED NSF CAREER award National Science Foundation, 2024

Awards& Honors

AAAI New Faculty Highlights AAAI, 2024

Cisco Faculty Research Award Cisco, 2024

Amazon Research Award Amazon, 2023

Spotlight Rising Star in Data Science
University of Chicago, 2021

Top 100 New Stars in Artificial Intelligence Baidu Scholar, 2020

Most Influential ACL Papers (15 each year) Paperdigest, 2017

National Scholarship (Top 1% students nationwide) SJTU, 2013

Publications Note: † indicates that I am a co-leading author. * indicates equal contributions. You can also find my publication list on [DBLP] and [Google Scholar] pages.

[1] IQA-EVAL: Automatic Evaluation of Human-Model Interactive Question Answering Ruosen Li, Ruochen Li, Barry Wang, Xinya Du

In Annual Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS), 2024.

[2] FaithScore: Fine-grained Evaluations of Hallucinations in Large Vision-Language Models

Liqiang Jing, Ruosen Li, Yunmo Chen, **Xinya Du**In Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics: (EMNLP), 2024.

[3] MEQA: A Benchmark for Multi-hop Event-centric Question Answering with Explanations

Ruosen Li, Zimu Wang, Son Quoc Tran, Lei Xia, **Xinya Du**In Annual Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS), 2024.

[4] Document-level Causal Relation Extraction with Knowledge-guided Binary Question Answering

Zimu Wang, Lei Xia, Wei Wang, **Xinya Du** In Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics: (EMNLP), 2024.

[5] QAEvent: Event Extraction as Question-Answer Pairs Generation Milind Choudhary, Xinya Du

In Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics: (EACL), 2024.

[6] PRD: Peer Rank and Discussion Improve Large Language Model-based Evaluations

Ruosen Li, Teerth Patel, **Xinya Du**In Transactions on Machine Learning Research (TMLR), 2024.

[7] Large Language Models for Automated Open-domain Scientific Hypotheses Discovery

Zonglin Yang, **Xinya Du**[†], Junxian Li, Jie Zheng, Soujanya Poria, Erik Cambria In Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics: (ACL), 2024. Best poster award in AI4Science workshop, 2024 (1/200).

[8] Making Natural Language Reasoning Explainable and Faithful Xinya Du

In AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI), 2024.

[9] Language Models as Inductive Reasoners

Zonglin Yang, Li Dong, **Xinya Du**[†], Hao Cheng, Erik Cambria, Xiaodong Liu, Jianfeng Gao, Furu Wei

In Conference of the European Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (EACL), 2024.

[10] Leveraging Structured Information for Explainable Multi-hop Question Answering and Reasoning

Ruosen Li, Xinya Du

In Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics: (EMNLP), 2023.

[11] Process of Elimination for Multiple Choice Reasoning Chenkai Ma, Xinya Du

In Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP), 2023.

[12] Probing Representations for Document-level Event Extraction

Barry Wang, Xinya Du, Claire Cardie

In Findings of the Association for Computational Linquistics: (EMNLP), 2023.

[13] Zero-Shot Classification by Logical Reasoning on Natural Language Explanations

Chi Han, Hengzhi Pei, **Xinya Du**, Heng Ji In Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics: (ACL), 2023.

[14] Toward Consistent and Informative Event-Event Temporal Relation Extraction Xiaomeng Jin, Haoyang Wen, Xinya Du, Heng Ji In MATCHING at Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL), 2023.

[15] End-to-end Case-Based Reasoning for Commonsense Knowledge Base Completion

Zonglin Yang, **Xinya Du**[†], Erik Cambria, Claire Cardie In Conference of the European Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (EACL), 2023.

[16] Logical Entity Representation in Knowledge-Graphs for Differentiable Rule Learning

Chi Han, Qizheng He, Charles Yu, **Xinya Du**, Hanghang Tong, Heng Ji In International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR), 2023.

[17] RESIN-11: Schema-guided Event Prediction for 11 Newsworthy Scenarios Xinya Du, Zixuan Zhang, Sha Li, Heng Ji and the RESIN team
In Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL): System Demonstrations, 2022.
Top ranking system in DARPA KAIROS evaluation.

[18] Retrieval-Augmented Generative Question Answering for Event Argument Extraction

Xinya Du and Heng Ji

In Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP), 2022.

[19] Dynamic Global Memory for Document-level Argument Extraction Xinya Du, Sha Li, and Heng Ji In Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL), 2022.

[20] Automatic Error Analysis for Document-level Information Extraction Aliva Das*, Xinya Du*, Barry Wang*, Kejian Shi, Jiayuan Gu, Thomas Porter, Claire Cardie

In Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL), 2022.

[21] Template Filling with Generative Transformers Xinya Du, Alexander M. Rush, and Claire Cardie In Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linquistics (NAACL), 2021.

[22] GRIT: Generative Role-filler Transformers for Document-level Event Entity Extraction

Xinya Du, Alexander M. Rush, and Claire Cardie In Conference of the European Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (EACL), 2021.

[23] Few-shot Intent Classification and Slot Filling with Retrieved Examples Dian Yu, Luheng He, Yuan Zhang, Xinya Du, Panupong Pasupat and Qi Li In Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL), 2021.

- [24] QA-Driven Zero-shot Slot Filling with Weak Supervision Pretraining Xinya Du, Luheng He, Qi Li, Dian Yu, Panupong Pasupat and Yuan Zhang In Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL), 2021.
- [25] Event Extraction by Answering (Almost) Natural Questions Xinya Du and Claire Cardie In Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP), 2020. Top 1% most cited articles published in Computer Science in 2020.
- [26] Improving Event Duration Prediction via Time-aware Pre-training Zonglin Yang, Xinya Du, Alexander M. Rush and Claire Cardie In Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics: (EMNLP), 2020.
- [27] Document-Level Event Role Filler Extraction using Multi-Granularity Contextualized Encoding Xinya Du and Claire Cardie In Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL), 2020.
- [28] Leveraging Structured Metadata for Improving Question Answering on the Web Xinya Du, Adam Fourney, Robert Sim, Claire Cardie, Paul Bennett and Ahmed Hassan Awadallah In Conference of the Asia-Pacific Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (AACL/IJCNLP), 2020.
- [29] Be Consistent! Improving Procedural Text Comprehension using Label Consistency Xinya Du, Bhavana Dalvi, Niket Tandon, Antoine Bosselut, Wen-tau Yih, Peter Clark, Claire Cardie In Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linquistics (NAACL), 2019.
- [30] Harvesting Paragraph-Level Question-Answer Pairs from Wikipedia Xinya Du and Claire Cardie
 In Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL), 2018.
 Top 1% most cited articles published in Computer Science in 2018.
- [31] Identifying Where to Focus in Reading Comprehension for Neural Question Generation Xinya Du and Claire Cardie In Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP), 2017.
- [32] Learning to Ask: Neural Question Generation for Reading Comprehension Xinya Du, Junru Shao and Claire Cardie In Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL), 2017. Featured in New Scientist and TechRepublic [Link] Top 0.1% most cited articles published in Computer Science in 2017 Most Influential ACL Papers [Link]
- [33] Cornell Belief and Sentiment System at TAC 2016
 Vlad Niculae, Kai Sun, Xilun Chen, Yao Cheng, Xinya Du, Esin Durmus, Arzoo Katiyar,

Claire Cardie

In Text Analysis Conference (TAC), 2016.

Grants

NSF CAREER: Learning to Extract Consistent Event Graphs from Long and Complex Documents (PI)

Funding Source: Natural Science Foundation.

Period: May 2024 – present.

Amount Awarded: \$561,219. Amount to me: \$561,219.

Process-guided Fine-tuning for Answering Complex Questions (PI)

Funding Source: Amazon Research Award.

Period: Jan 2024 - present.

Amount Awarded: \$110,000 (\$40,000 AWS credits). Amount to me: \$110,000.

Amazon Trusted AI Challenge Grant (Co-PI)

Funding Source: Amazon. Period: Sep 2024 – present.

Amount Awarded: \$250,000. Amount to me: \$125,000.

FAIGen: Faithful LLM Generation with Scientific Principles-guided Learning (PI)

Funding Source: Cisco Faculty Research Award.

Period Jan 2025 – present.

Amount Awarded: \$50,000. Amount to me: \$50,000.

Faithfulness in Large Vision Language Models (PI)

Funding Source: OpenAI Researcher Access Program (jointly awarded with PhD student).

Period: Sep 2024 – present.

Amount Awarded: \$4,000. Amount to me: \$4,000.

Undergraduate Research Apprenticeship Award (URAP) (PI)

Funding Source: University of Texas at Dallas.

Period: Summer 2023, 2024. Amount Awarded: \$9,000.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Introduction to Machine Learning, UT Dallas, Spring 2024

Natural Language Processing, UT Dallas, Fall 2023, 2024

Deep Learning for Natural Language Processing, UT Dallas, Spring 2023 New course developed by me (overall score of 4.65/5.0) [Link]

Natural Language Processing, UT Dallas, Fall 2022

Natural Language Processing, Cornell University, Fall 2019 Teaching Assistant for Prof. Claire Cardie.

Natural Language Processing, Cornell University, Spring 2019 Teaching Assistant for Prof. Yoav Artzi.

Software Engineering, Cornell University, Spring 17, Spring 18 Teaching Assistant for Prof. William Arms.

Introduction to Computing Using Python, Cornell University, Fall 2016 Teaching Assistant for Prof. Walker White.

MENTORING EXPERIENCE

PhD students

Ruosen Li (2022–present, UT Dallas PhD student)

Publications: TMLR 2024, NeurIPS 2024, EMNLP (Findings) 2023 2024.

Liqiang Jing (2023–present, UT Dallas PhD student)

Publications: EMNLP (Findings) 2024. Award: OpenAI Researcher Access Program.

Ruochen Li (2023–present, UT Dallas PhD student)

Publications: NeurIPS 2024.

Guiming Chen (2024–present, UT Dallas PhD student)

Master Students

Milind Choudhary (2023, UT Dallas Master student) → UT Dallas PhD

Topic: Event Extraction as Question-Answer Pairs Generation

Publications: EACL 2024 (Findings).

Zimu Wang (2023-present, UT Dallas Visiting student)

Topic: Temporal relation extraction.

Publications: EMNLP 2024 (Findings), NeurIPS 2024.

Son Tran (2023, UT Dallas Visiting student) \rightarrow Cornell CS PhD

Topic: Question Answering. Publications: NeurIPS 2024.

Chenkai Ma (2023, UT Dallas Visiting student)

Topic: Multiple Choice Questions Reasoning.

Publications: EMNLP 2023.

Zonglin Yang (2020–2024, Cornell CS MEng student \rightarrow NTU PhD)

Topic: Commonsense and Case-based Reasoning for NLP.

Publications: EMNLP (Findings) 2020, EACL 2023, ACL 2024 (Findings).

Barry Wang (2021–2024, Cornell CS undergraduate student) \rightarrow CMU PhD

Topic: Automatic Error Analysis for Information Extraction.

Publications: ACL 2022, SciNLP 2022, EMNLP 2023, NeurIPS 2024.

Ehsan Aghazadeh (2024, UT Dallas Visiting student)

Topic: Large vision language models interpretability.

Bowen Yan (2024, UT Dallas Visiting student)

Topic: Large vision language models hallucinations.

Zhengsong Zhang (2024, UT Dallas Visiting student)

Topic: Large vision language models hallucinations.

Undergraduate/High School Students

Teerth Patel (UT Dallas BS student, 2023-present)

Topic: Large language model peer evaluations.

Publications: TMLR 2024.

Award: Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science Award

Lei Xia (2023–2024, UT Dallas Visiting student)

Topic: Multi-hop Question Answering.

Publications: NeurIPS 2024.

Minhao Zou (2024, UT Dallas Visiting student)

Topic: LLM for Scientific Discovery.

Arjun Junghare (2024, UT Dallas CS undergraduate student)

Topic: Image Generation with Large Language Models.

Jaden Nunes (Summer 2023, DFW Local K-12 student)

Topic: Event Extraction as Question-Answer Pairs Generation.

Rishab Bhattacharya (Summer 2023, DFW Local K-12 student)

Topic: Event Extraction as Question-Answer Pairs Generation.

Shreyas Kumar (Summer 2023, DFW Local K-12 student)

Topic: Event Extraction as Question-Answer Pairs Generation.

Rishi Malhotra (Spring 2021, Cornell CS undergraduate student \rightarrow Microsoft)

Topic: Applying Neural Document-level IE Model to the Scientific Domain.

Aliva Das (2021–2022, Cornell CS undergraduate student \rightarrow Amazon)

Topic: Automatic Error Analysis for Information Extraction.

Publications: ACL 2022, SciNLP 2021.

Maitreyi Chatterjee (Spring 2021, Cornell CS undergraduate student \rightarrow LinkedIn)

Topic: Applying Neural Document-level IE Model to the Scientific Domain.

PROFESSIONAL Chairing:

SERVICES

ACL Rolling Review (ARR) 2024

Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP) 2024 Area char

Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL) 2023 Area char

International Conference on Computational Linguistics (COLING) 2024, 2025 Senior Area Chair

Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP) Demo Track 2024 Area char

Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL) 2024 Website chair

Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL) 2024 Session Chair

Seminar/Conference/Workshop Organizing:

AI4Research: Towards a Unified Knowledge-grounded Scientific Research Lifecycle. To Appear AAAI 2025. Organizing team: Qingyun Wang, Wenpeng Yin, Lifu Huang, Yi R. Fung, Xinya Du, Carl Edwards, Tom Hope.

Journal Reviewer:

IEEE Transactions on Knowledge and Data Engineering (TKDE)

IEEE Transactions on Audio, Speech and Language Processing (TASLP)

IEEE Transactions on Neural Networks and Learning Systems (TNNLS)

ACM Transactions on Asian and Low-Resource Language Information Processing (TAL-LIP)

ACM Transactions on Knowledge Discovery from Data (TKDD)

Computational Linguistics (CL)

Knowledge and Information Systems (KAIS)

AI Communication

Information Processing and Management (IPM)

Conference Committee Member:

Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)

Annual Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)

International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR)

International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS)

Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)

Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL)

Conference of the Asia-Pacific Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (AACL/IJCNLP)

International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (IJCAI)

AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI)

Natural Language Processing and Chinese Computing (NLPCC)

Conference on Computational Natural Language Learning (CoNLL)

Workshop on Noisy User-generated Text (W-NUT)

Workshop on Machine Reading for Question Answering (MRQA)

Joint Conference on Lexical and Computational Semantics

PhD/MS Committee Member:

PhD: Xiangci Li, Jishnu Jaykumar Padalunkal, Basel Abdeen, Yibo Hu.

MS: Wooseong Yang, Shubham Patel

Other Activities:

Faculty advisor and judge for Association for Computing Machinery Symposium (ACM). UT Dallas. 2023-2024.

Faculty Advisor for Women Who Compute (WWC). UT Dallas. 2024.

Faculty Advisor for Girls Who Code (GWC). UT Dallas. 2024.

Faculty Advisor for Society of Asian Scientists and Engineers (SASE). UT Dallas. 2024

Faculty host for UTD K-12 Outreach. UT Dallas. Summer 2023, 2024.

Research Mentor for RIDE (Research, Inquiry, Design Experience) Project. UT Dallas. 2024

Member of PhD Admission Committee. UT Dallas. 2022, 2023, 2024

Site host of North American Computational Linguistics Olympiad (NACLO). 2023, 2024.

Member of Cornell CS Department PhD Admission Committee. 2021.

Volunteer for Cornell CS Department PhD Visit Day. 2019, 2020, 2021.

Student Volunteer for ACL 2017, ACL 2018, EMNLP 2017.

RECENT TALKS

Synergizing Knowledge and Large Language Models

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Data Mining Group Seminar, Oct 2024.

Synergy between Large Language Model and Knowledge University of North Texas, Oct 2024.

Synergizing Knowledge and Large Language Models

University of Massachusetts-Amherst, Machine Learning & Friends Lunch, Sep 2024.

Faculty Round Table Talk

UT Dallas Hobson Wildenthal Honors College, Aug 2024.

Large Language Models: Knowledge, Reasoning and Factuality Samsung Electronics America, Mar 2024. Open-ended Evaluations of Foundational Models: Alignment and Faithfulness Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Computer Science Department Seminar, Dec 2023. Fudan University, Computer Science Department Seminar, Dec 2023.

ChatGPT: Fact vs. Fiction
UT Dallas, Forum sponsored by The Dallas Morning News, May 2023.

Towards More Intelligent Extraction of Information from Documents Allen Institute for Artificial Intelligence, Feb 2022 Simon Fraser University, Feb 2022 Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Feb 2022 University of California, Merced, Feb 2022

Towards More Intelligent Extraction of Information from Documents UIUC, Siebel School of Computing and Data Science Speaker Series, Feb 2022

Towards More Informed Extraction of Events from Documents University of Chicago, Rising Stars in Data Science Workshop, Jan 2021. Tencent AI Research America, Nov 2020.

Event Extraction by Answering (Almost) Natural Question UIUC, Information Extraction and Knowledge Acquisition Class, Sep 2020

LwLL: Progress on the NLP Front Cornell University, DARPA site visit, Apr 2020.

Harvesting Paragraph-Level Question-Answer Pairs from Wikipedia 56th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics, July 2018.